

CLAIMS

1. A system for transferring files to a remote host comprising:
- a local device;
 - a remote device;
 - a communications network;
 - 5 the local device programmed to perform the steps of:
 - A) store a plurality of files on a first mass storage unit;
 - B) wait until a preset time;
 - C) connect to the remote device after the preset time, the connection made through the communications network; and
 - 10 D) transfer the plurality of files to the remote device via the communications network;
 - the remote device programmed to perform the steps of:
 - E) wait until the preset time;
 - F) accept, in response to the communications network not being used and in re-
 - 15 sponse to the preset time, a connection request from the local device via the communications network;
 - G) receive the plurality of files in response to a grant of the connection request, the files received through the communications network from the local device;
 - H) store the plurality of files on a second mass storage unit; and
 - 20 I) when ordered to by the remote host, transfer the plurality of files from the second mass storage unit to the remote host.
2. The system of claim 1, further comprising
- 2 a universal serial bus (USB) connector, the USB connector connected to the local
 - 3 device such that the local device can receive files via the USB connector.
3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 a local host, the local host transmitting the plurality of files to the local device.

- 1 4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for issuing a warning signal in response to both the communications network
3 being used and in response to the preset time.
- 1 5. A system as in claim 4 wherein the warning signal further comprises:
2 an audible sound.
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- 1 6. A system as in claim 4 wherein the warning signal further comprises:
2 a message transmitted to the remote host.
- 1 7. A system as in claim 1 wherein the communications network further comprises:
2 a public switched telephone network.
- 1 8. A device for transferring and storing files comprising:
2 a data transfer unit, said data transfer unit capable of communicating with a host via a
3 plurality of data transfer protocols;
4 a plurality of mass storage units;
5 a modem connected to a phone line; and
6 a control unit;
7 the control unit is programmed to have the device perform the steps of:
8 A) receive a plurality of files from a local host via the data transfer unit;
9 B) store the plurality of files on the plurality of mass storage units;
10 C) wait until a time frame set by the remote device;
11 D) connect to a remote device via the modem; and
12 E) transfer the plurality of files to the remote device.
- 1 9. A device for transferring and storing files comprising:
2 a data transfer unit, said data transfer unit capable of communicating with a host via a
3 plurality of data transfer protocols;
4 a plurality of mass storage units;

- 5 a modem connected to a phone line; and
6 a control unit;
7 the control unit is programmed to have the device perform the steps of:
8 A) wait until a preset time;
9 B) accept connection requests from the modem;
10 C) receive, in response to a grant of the connection request, a plurality of files via
11 the modem;
12 D) store the plurality of files on the plurality of mass storage units.

- 1 10. A method for transferring a plurality of files to a remote host comprising the steps of:
2 A) storing the plurality of files on a first mass storage unit;
3 B) waiting until a preset time, the preset time being determined by the remote host
4 of the files;
5 C) connecting to a remote device after the preset time, the connection occurring
6 via a communications network;
7 D) transferring the plurality of files to a remote device via the communications
8 network.

11. A method for receiving a plurality of files comprising the steps of:
10 A) waiting until a preset time;
B) accepting, after the preset time, a connection request from a local device via a
communications network;
C) receiving the plurality of files, in response to a grant of the connection re-
quest, from the local device;
15 D) storing the plurality of files on a mass storage device;
E) transferring the plurality of files to a remote host, the transfer occurring when
requested by the remote host.